



NEW CALEDONIA

January 2022



The World Mosquito Program in New Caledonia is part of a global, not-for-profit initiative that is working to protect local communities from mosquito-borne diseases.

In March 2018, we announced a new partnership with the Government of New Caledonia, the City of Nouméa and the Institute Pasteur in New Caledonia to protect communities in New Caledonia from mosquito-borne diseases.

After conducting laboratory studies to examine the impact of *Wolbachia* on dengue and chikungunya viruses in Nouméa, and

engaging with the community to explain our *Wolbachia* method and gain their acceptance, we are releasing *Wolbachia*-carrying mosquitoes across Nouméa.

We are also rigorously evaluating the impact of *Wolbachia* on the transmission of dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases in the area.

New Caledonia is the fourth country in the Western Pacific to join the global initiative.



1
project site



size of the project
49 km²



116,288
target population

PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE
measured by survey
94% Nouméa



30
project staff



1824
volunteers who released mosquitoes



3
local partners and supporters



MOSQUITO- BORNE DISEASE BURDEN IN NEW CALEDONIA

Mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue pose increasing health concerns for New Caledonia.

According to a World Health Organization report, more than 4000 dengue cases and 10 deaths were reported between September 2016 and June 2017.

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Many countries in the Pacific, including New Caledonia, are always at risk from the threat of mosquitoes. With the self-sustaining *Wolbachia* method, we have a chance to use the best of nature to fight the worst of nature.

- Dr Tristan Derycke, City of Noumea Deputy Mayor



A beautiful day for the first release in New Caledonia

On a beautiful July day in New Caledonia's largest city and capital, Nouméa, a crowd gathered in Coconut Square for the ceremonial release of thousands of *Wolbachia* mosquitoes.

The World Mosquito Program provided 100 boxes of adult *Wolbachia* mosquitoes for people to release. With this and subsequent releases, planned until the end of march 2020, the *Wolbachia* mosquitoes will mate with wild mosquitoes, so that most of the mosquitoes in and around Nouméa will carry *Wolbachia*, reducing their ability to transmit mosquito-borne viruses such as dengue, Zika, chikungunya and yellow fever.

This was a historic moment, reflected by the attendees, who included representatives of important partners of the program – the Department of Health and Social Affairs of New Caledonia, the City of Nouméa Directorate of Health Risks, and the Institute Pasteur in New Caledonia – and local supporters from the EEC (electricity supplier), Fontaines d'eau du Mont-Dore (water supplier), and Office des Postes et Télécommunications de Nouvelle-Calédonie (telecommunications provider).

Partners and supporters



Further information:

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About us

The World Mosquito Program (WMP) is a not-for-profit group of companies owned by Monash University that works to protect the global community from mosquito-borne diseases. The World Mosquito Program uses naturally occurring bacteria called *Wolbachia* to reduce the ability of mosquitoes to transmit viruses to humans.

Following decades of research and successful field trial results, the World Mosquito Program is currently partnering with communities in 11 countries around the world to implement our ground-breaking

solution. We have staff working in countries across Oceania, Asia, Europe, and the Americas, and offices established in Australia, Vietnam, France and Panama.

Our approach has widespread support from communities, governments, research institutes and philanthropic partners around the world. Through collaboration and innovation, we are making a difference to millions of lives.

A collaboration between:



Contact us

